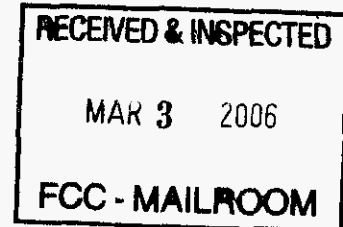# Elbert County Schools

Samuel Light
Superintendent

50 Laurel Drive
Elberton, GA 30635

February 27, 2006   DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

REQUEST FOR REVIEW
CC DOCKET NO.02-6

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 – 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Contact Name: Bruce Brown
Contact Address: 50 Laurel Drive, Elberton, GA 30635
Contact Telephone: 706-213-4066 or 706-988-3297
Contact Fax Number: 706-283-6674
Contact Email Address: bbrown@elbert.k12.ga.us

Subject: Letter of Appeal for Elbert County School District, Billed Entity Number 127378
Year 8 (2005-2006) Forms 471 and Funding Requests Under Appeal:
Form 471 Number 476078; FRNs 1313604, 1313648, 1313749, 1313903, 1313974, 1314039, 1314099, 1314152, 1314208
Form 471 Number 477346, FRN 1317865
Form 471 Number 452613, FRNs 1312219, 1312438
Form 471 Number 452680, FRN 1313004

Date of Funding Commitment Decision Letters: October 12, 2005
Date of USAC Denials of Appeal: December 30, 2005

SLD Reason for Denial Applied to All FRNs Listed Above: "No technology plan covering the current funding year was in place when the Form 470 was filed. A written technology plan is needed if seeking discounts for more than basic phone service."

Reason for Appeal:

A Technology plan was in place that covered the current funding year. During Selective Review of the Form 471 Applications listed above, we provided both the new revised technology plan dated July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2008 and the old expiring technology plan dated 2002 – 2005 to demonstrate continuity of both plans. Additionally, our certified Technology Plan Approver, the Georgia Department of Education, has verified "there has not been a lapse in time for technology plans for Elbert County School District", see attachment.

Recently the FCC ruled favorably on an appeal submitted by the Glendale Unified School District (California). The following statement summarizes the problems we encountered regarding the submission of both technology plans during Selective Review:

As we recently noted, the E-rate program is fraught with complexity from the perspective of beneficiaries, resulting in a significant number of applications for E-rate support being denied for ministerial or clerical errors...Although processing standards are necessary for the efficient administration of the program, strict adherence to such application procedures in this case would result in an outcome conflicting with the statutory goal mandated by Congress of preserving and advancing universal service among schools and libraries most in need of support.

Consequently, we ask the Commission to remand this application to the Administrator for processing. In accordance with Title 47, Chapter 1, Part 1, Section 1.3 of Commission rules, the Commission may waive petition.

In addition to the issues sited above, we are requesting that consideration be given to the denial of funding for Centrex services used by Elbert County School District.

In the specific case of Elbert County School District, they have chosen to use Centrex lines in lieu of POTS lines as a cost saving measure. A POTS line from BellSouth costs approximately $45-$50 per month, while a Centrex line (used for POTS services) costs only $20-$25 per month. This funding denial decision has penalized the district for using more cost efficient services from BellSouth, which we hope you will determine goes against the spirit of the program.

In addition, regarding Centrex services, SECA filed a petition with the FCC asking for a ruling on the United Talmudical Academy II Decision (FCC 03-260) petition a few years ago. The Commission opened the door for basic telephone service designation for Centrex services in the case of United Talmudical Academy II, saying: "There may be a reasonable argument that Centrex should be treated as basic telephone service in future funding years, to streamline application processing." The basis of the UTA petition is exactly as described above for Elbert County School District.

Attachments:
Elbert County Technology Plan 2002-2005
Elbert County Technology Plan July 1, 2005-June 30, 2008
E-mail from Ga DOE

Hi Richard,

We currently have on file a technology plan dated July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2005 with an approval memo for covering those same dates. The current technology plan on file is dated July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2008 and has an approval memo covering those same dates. There has not been a lapse in time for technology plans for Elbert County School District.

Charlie Jackson
Georgia Department of Education
Office of Instructional Technology
1954 Twin Towers East
Atlanta, GA 30334
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http://www.GADOE.org

Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools

"Richard Matthews" <matthews@elbert.k12.ga.us>
02/27/2006 04:34 PM

To
<chjackso@doe.k12.ga.us>
cc

Subject
Tech Plan Status for Elbert County

Charlie,

I am preparing an appeal to the FCC regarding denial of E-rate funding by the SLD. Would you send me a statement confirming the status of Elbert County School District's system level technology plan covering the period July 1, 2002 to the present?

Sincerely,

Richard Matthews

===

Richard Matthews   Technology Specialist
706-213-4055   Elbert County School
System
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ELBERT COUNTY SCHOOLS

TECHNOLOGY PLAN

2002 –2005

Index for Technology Integration Components

	Technology Plan Component	Link(s) or Page number(s)
	GOALS AND BENCHMARKS:	
X	Goals:	
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X	▪ Instructional uses of technology	14
X	▪ Administrative uses of technology	15
X	▪ Parent/Community uses of technology	15-16
X	▪ System readiness for technology	16-17
X	Benchmarks to accompany each goal	13-17
X	Evaluation plan	13-17
	ACTION PLAN:	
X	Strategies	
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X	▪ Technology access strategies	20-22
X	▪ Equitable access strategies	20-22
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X	Strategic Alignment to Goals	18-25
X	Timeline	18-25
X	Responsibility lists	18-25
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X	Share progress/evaluation results	26
X	Encourage broader stakeholder involvement	26
X	Market role of technology in helping students achieve QCC	26
	APPENDICES	
X	Acceptable use policies	
X	Interoperability and redeployment procedures	
	Other policies and procedures	
	Supporting documents	
	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO REVIEWERS *(optional)*:	

Review of Previous Plan

Elbert County Schools' Technology Plan for the period 1999 – 2002 was reviewed as a part of developing this revised Technology Plan. It is gratifying to note that many of the improvements suggested in the previous plan have actually been implemented in the system during the last three years, and in some cases we have gone beyond what was envisioned.

Significant improvements in our infrastructure have been installed. All sites are now connected to our WAN, and we recently have installed an up-to-date phone system throughout the school system. Hardware upgrades, both servers and work stations, were installed to ensure Y2K compliance. Firewall software and internet filtering software are in place. The system and each school have websites, and e-mail communication is a reality for all staff members. While not at the levels we would like, access to modern computers is greater than before. Many teachers and support staff members have been involved in staff development activities, resulting in increased comfort with technology and more integration of technology into the classroom learning process.

Planning Process

Involvement and responsibility for planning

The Elbert County Technology Plan was formulated with input from a wide range of persons, both within the school system and external. We began in the fall of 2001 with our Technology Specialists attending information sessions about the planning process. The Technology Specialists met with the System Media/Technology Committee to discuss the Technology Plan and brainstorm ideas for local planning. It was decided that the System Media/Technology Committee would function as a steering committee to guide the planning process, and they would seek input from a wide variety of people in the community. Members of the System Media/Technology Committee include: Associate Superintendent for Instruction; Special Education Director; Media Specialists from each school (7); Technology Specialists (3); principals (2); teachers and parents. The System Media/Technology Committee met monthly throughout the 2001-2002 school year, with Technology Planning as a major agenda item at each meeting.

In addition to the Steering Committee, input and feedback were obtained from several sources as the plan was formulated.
- The System Leadership Team discussed Technology Planning efforts at their monthly meetings. This team includes: Superintendent, Associate Superintendent for Instruction, Associate Superintendent for Personnel/Title I, Special Education director, Finance director, FTE coordinator, Facilities/Maintenance director, Food Service director, Transportation director, and all school principals.
- Each school's Media/Technology Committee reviewed drafts and gave suggestions. These committees include media specialists, administrators,

teachers, parents, community members, PTO representatives, and students. The school Media/Technology Committees meet as needed at each school throughout the year, but at least two meetings were held at each school.

- Each school's School Council reviewed drafts and provided feedback. School Councils meet monthly, and the Technology Plan was included on two of their monthly meeting agendas. The School Councils are made up of the principal, 2 teachers, 2 parents, and 2 business partners. At one school, one of the teacher representatives is a special education teacher. Two schools have the media specialist as a member of the School Council. In addition, one school has a Technology Specialist as a parent representative on the School Council.

- The Board of Directors of Elbert County Communities In Schools and Family Connection reviewed the document at one of their monthly meetings and provided suggestions. Representatives on this board include school system leaders, health department nurse, Elberton Police Chief, DFCS director, Adult Literacy Director, Athens Technical College Vice-President, Communities In Schools program director, Elbert Memorial Hospital financial officer, juvenile court judge, business leaders, and parents.

- ESOL teachers (we have one at elementary and one for middle and high school students) were asked to review the proposed plan and give suggestions for addressing ESOL student needs.

Final writing of the Technology Plan was done by the Associate Superintendent for Instruction and one of the Technology Specialists. They incorporated suggestions from all the groups and individuals listed above.

Integration/Coordination with other planning initiatives

Because Elbert County is a small school system (7 schools) with limited administrative staff, coordination with other planning initiatives is not complex. The Superintendent and Associate Superintendent for Instruction are involved in all long-range planning efforts in the system. The Associate Superintendent for Instruction serves the following roles, all of which have long-range planning responsibilities: Staff Development coordinator, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Title VI coordinator, Title II coordinator, Title IV coordinator, Media director, and liaison to Family Connection Collaborative. The Associate Superintendent for Instruction shares an office with the Associate Superintendent for Personnel/Title I and the Special Education Director, and there is on-going communication about all system programs and plans.

The System School Improvement Plan is updated annually. The group responsible for this plan includes: Superintendent; Associate Superintendent for Instruction; Associate Superintendent for Personnel and Title I; Principals (2); Assistant Principal (2); High School Guidance director; BOE chairman and one BOE member; teachers (2). As this plan is updated, Technology components are being integrated with it.

Student Needs

<u>Student academic needs</u>

A review of the most recent test scores on standardized tests reveals that Elbert County students need to improve achievement in <u>all</u> academic areas. Weaknesses are evident <u>across all grade levels and in all ethnic groups.</u>

Student Academic Need	**Evidence/Data**
1. Improve achievement in Reading	Grade 3 SAT 9 (2001) = 43%ile Average NPR Grade 5 SAT 9 (2001) = 44 %ile AverageNPR Grade 8 SAT 9 (2001) = 33 %ile AverageNPR Grade 4 CRCT (2001) = 32 % at Level 1 Grade 6 CRCT (2001) = 28% at Level 1 Grade 8 CRCT (2001) = 33% at Level 1 High School Average Verbal SAT (2001) = 452
2. Improve achievement in Math	Grade 3 SAT 9 (2001) = 34%ile Average NPR Grade 5 SAT 9 (2001) = 41 %ile Average NPR Grade 8 SAT 9 (2001) = 27 %ile AverageNPR Grade 4 CRCT (2001) = 46% at Level 1 Grade 6 CRCT (2001) = 39% at Level 1 Grade 8 CRCT (2001) = 64% at Level 1 High School Average Math SAT (2001) = 446
3. Improve achievement in Science	Ga. High School Graduation Test, Science (2002) = 64% of 1st time test-takers passed
1. Improve achievement in Social Studies	Ga. High School Graduation Test, Social Studies (2002) =57% of 1st time test-takers passed
5. Improve achievement in Writing	Ga. High School Graduation Test, Writing (2002) = 81% of 1st time test-takers passed

<u>Academic needs of special populations</u>

ESOL Students: Standardized tests are not disaggregated for ESOL students because our system had too few students to report.

MINORITY Students: (Grade 4 shown as example; similar pattern in other grades)
    African American: Reading: Grade 4 CRCT (2001) = 41% at Level 1
                         Math: Grade 4 CRCT (2001) = 64% at Level 1
    Hispanic: Reading: Grade 4 CRCT (2001) = 56% at Level 1
                         Math: Grade 4 CRCT (2001) = 56% at Level 1

SPECIAL EDUCATION Students:
                Reading: Grade 4 CRCT (2001) = 94% at Level 1
                Math: Grade 4 CRCT (2001) = 88% at Level 1

Student technology literacy needs

The majority of Elbert County students meet the following technology integration standards:

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade
- Identifies basic technology tools
- Demonstrates understanding of basic technology and telecommunication tools
- Demonstrates an understanding of the uses of technology and communication tools at home and in the community
- Follows established rules for the care and use of technology tools
- Operates basic technology tools and applications

3rd – 5th Grade (Includes above and adds the following)
- Utilizes technology tools to facilitate the writing process with teacher guidance
- Uses technology to gather information and communicate with others with teacher guidance
- Recognizes appropriate uses of information and information technology
- Uses basic research techniques with teacher guidance
- Uses technology to solve problems and make decisions with teacher guidance

6th – 8th Grade (Includes above and adds the following)
- Uses technology tools to create charts and graphs with teacher guidance
- Uses multimedia tools to express ideas with teacher guidance
- Applies word processing/desktop-publishing tools to facilitate the writing process
- Demonstrates ethical and legal use of technology and information

9th – 12th Grade (Includes above and adds the following)
- Uses technology tools independently
- Manages information with databases and spreadsheets
- Uses technology tools to convey information and ideas, communicate, and collaborate at all levels from interpersonal to global

Elbert County students need to move beyond teacher-directed use of technology tools toward more independent application of technology uses. Students need a wide variety of technology skills at an earlier age. Too often, students are told exactly what to do with technology, rather than allowed to explore and apply their knowledge and skills.

District Vision Statement

Elbert County School System Vision (from Comprehensive School Improvement Plan):
The Elbert County School System will work with the community to provide the best possible educational opportunities to meet the needs of all students. Students will be prepared for post-secondary educational opportunities, either college or technical training, or be prepared to enter the work force upon graduation. Students will be actively engaged in learning and work to their individual potential. Educators will use innovative methods and challenge all students to meet high standards. The educational program will integrate technology for personal, academic, and career needs. Parents will be involved in the education of their children. The community will be informed about the educational opportunities and challenges locally, and will provide necessary resources for meeting the needs of students. Schools will be safe and supportive environments.

Vision for Technology:
Technology is an essential component of realizing the school system's vision, as stated in the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan. Without technological resources, the vision cannot become a reality. Our vision for technology in Elbert County Schools is that teachers, administrators, support personnel, and students will use up-to-date technological hardware and software to support and enhance all phases of the instructional program. The use of technology will be integrated into the instructional program and will enable teachers and students to improve academic achievement at all levels and in all content areas. Increased use of Internet access is anticipated across the district. Increased video distribution for educational purposes is also anticipated.

District Goals and Performance Objectives for Student Achievement and Tech Literacy

Goal I: Improve student achievement *(from Comprehensive School Improvement Plan)*
4. Annually increase student attendance
   - decrease number of students absent 10 or more days by 3% annually until at the state average
5. Articulate curriculum K-12 in all subjects
   - complete K-12 Curriculum Maps
6. Increase student test scores
   - increase SAT9 NPR by 3 percentile points per year
7. Disaggregate and interpret student achievement data
   - administer ability test
   - educate parents & community about student achievement results
8. Increase percent of students reading on grade level by third grade
   - increase student performance on standardized reading tests in grades K-3 annually
9. Investigate year-round schooling

- task force to research

Goal for Technology Literacy: Integrate technology in all areas of instruction
1. Increase teacher/staff competence in technology use
    - In-Tech training for all teachers
    - more technology support staff
2. Increase access to up-to-date technology, both hardware and software
    - 4 computers per classroom
    - infrastructure improvements
3. Improve administrative use of technology
    - new student information system and support
    - new financial/accounting software system

Current Status of Other Educational Variables

Selected information for Elbert County taken from Georgia Public Education Report Card, 2000-2001:
- Enrollment: 3661 (K-12); 121 (Pre-K)
- Socioeconomic status: 54.1% eligible for free/reduced price lunch
- Dropout Rate: 6.7% (grades 9-12)
- High School completion rate: 69.5%
- County Per Capita Income: $21,302
- Ethnicity of Student Body: White = 57.1%
                             Black = 40.5%
                             Hispanic = 1.5%

External Scan

Needs of community and business

Elbert County has a high unemployment rate. Because of our depressed economic status, the community is considered a Tier 1 county by the Georgia Department of Industry and Trade. Chamber of Commerce officials report that there is a definite need for a better-educated work force with advanced technological skills. Employers need workers who have basic literacy and math skills, a good "work ethic," and the ability to work with technology in manufacturing and service sector jobs. Elberton is a center for granite quarrying and manufacturing. The granite industry is becoming more technologically advanced, with high tech applications in quarrying, cutting, polishing, and finishing the stone. Computer-assisted drafting is important to the granite industry, along with office workers with computer skills for managing the sales and distribution of the granite products.

Technology Mission and Vision

System's vision for technology use

The vision for technology use in Elbert County Schools is that all teachers, administrators, support personnel, and students will use up-to-date technological hardware and software to support and enhance all phases of the instructional program and system administration. The use of technology will be integrated into the instructional program and will enable teachers and students to improve academic achievement at all levels and in all content areas.

System's technology mission statement

The mission for the technology department in Elbert County Schools is to increase and improve the current and future technologies with the intent of enhancing learning and teaching. Technology must be an integral part of the overall plan to move students to a higher academic level by shifting the focus from teaching to active learning. The integration of technology will strengthen existing curricula and support meaningful, engaged learning for all students. Technology will be used to increase the school system's productivity and efficiency. Technology department staff will facilitate and support all technological applications for students, teachers and administrators. District network performance and required infrastructure to sustain growing communication needs will be important.

Current Reality

Access to technology *(data taken from Technology Inventory, December 2001)*

Elbert County operates seven schools, with a total of 247 classrooms for 3813 students in Pre-Kindergarten through grade 12. There are a total of 705 modern (as defined by Ga. DOE) desktop computers, 29 laptops, and 16 servers in the system. Windows is the predominate operating system, with only 6 of the system's computers being MacIntosh. computers.

93.5% of Elbert County's classrooms have 1 or 2 modern computers; only one classroom in the district has no computer available, and the other classrooms contain more than 2 computers. Several computer labs are available in the high school and middle school; 3 of the elementary schools have computer labs available. All system computers are connected to the LAN and all have internet access. The ratio of students per classroom computer is 5.8.

In addition to computers, 82% of the classrooms are connected to the video distribution system and receive PeachStar programming. 301 printers are available for instructional use and 37 printers are used for administrative functions. There are 39 scanners, digitizers or digital cameras; 285 televisions; 20 camcorders; 33 LCD projectors; 9 FAX machines; and 254 graphing calculators. 6 assistive or adaptive devices are in use for special needs students. The system has recently installed a networked telephone system with voice mail capability throughout all sites, making voice communication more

efficient. All media centers use the Winnebago/Sage Brush Spectrum automation system for checkout, inventory, and card catalog functions.

Instructional uses of technology

All elementary and middle school students use the Accelerated Reader program to track books read. STAR software is used in conjunction with Accelerated Reader to determine student reading levels and appropriate books for earning AR points. A variety of other computer software programs are being used throughout the system. Many of these programs provide practice on specific skills. Students and teachers also use word processing and e-mail extensively. Some students and teachers use presentation applications (PowerPoint), but lack of projection equipment reduces the use of this application. Students and teachers use the Internet for reference and research. Internet resources may play a greater role in research and growth in this area is anticipated.

Administrative uses of technology

Most teachers in middle and high school maintain an electronic grade book and submit grades to the school office via computer. Elbert County currently uses OSIRIS for FTE and Student Information and GENESIS for accounting. E-mail is used for much of the intra-system communications.

Parent/Community uses of technology

No assessment has been made of technology use by parents and community. Elberton has recently opened a "Power-Up" computer lab which is open to the public. Members of the community without home computers can also access the internet at the public library; however, the library's hours are limited and the library is not open nights and weekends.

System readiness for technology

Teacher and administrator competence with technology varies widely. Approximately 25% of the professional staff members have complete In-Tech training or have demonstrated competency as described in the Special Georgia Technology Certification requirements. A survey conducted in the spring of 2002 revealed that 90% of teachers have at least one computer in their home. Teachers are more confident using the computer for productivity (word processing, e-mail, grades) than instructional uses.

System support for technology

The Elbert County school system employs 3 full-time technology specialists for technology support. These 3 specialists provide services to the central office, 7 schools and the Alternative School site. These experts install and maintain hardware and software, provide specifications and advice on technology purchases, trouble-shoot

problems with the networks or individual machines, instruct staff in use of technology, and maintain technology inventories.

Gap Analysis

Access to technology

Our system goal is to have 4 modern networked computers in each classroom. Currently, most classrooms have 1 or 2 computers, so we will need to more than double the number of classroom computers currently in the system. Most classrooms do not have the necessary wiring to accommodate 4 computers, so significant investments in infrastructure will be needed. More equipment for PowerPoint presentations is needed at all schools.

Instructional uses of technology

Teachers need continued extensive staff development training in the mechanics of using technology before they feel confident enough to incorporate technology in their instructional program. Software programs need to be evaluated before funds are spent for purchasing these programs. Teachers need to learn how to use technology to teach the QCC objectives

Administrative uses of technology

Both OSIRIS and GENESIS programs are outdated and need to be replaced with more up-to-date software applications for Student Information and Accounting functions.

Parent/Community uses of technology

We need to obtain current data from parents and the community about their use of technology.

System readiness for technology

Teacher training is the biggest gap in this area. All teachers who have not completed In-Tech or Georgia Special Technology Certification requirements should complete one or the other.

System support for technology

As our system's technology networks and computer hardware inventories expand, there will be a critical need for more trained Technology Specialists to support and maintain the equipment. In addition, we need a person on staff to conduct technology training for teachers and administrators.

Goals, Benchmarks, Evaluation & Persons Responsible

Access to Technology -- Goals/Benchmarks/Evaluation:

VISION: All teachers, administrators, support personnel, and students will use up-to-date technological hardware and software to support and enhance all phases of the instructional program and system administration.

GOAL	BENCHMARK	EVALUATION & (RESPONSIBILITY)
1. Provide 4 modern computers per classroom	By June 2004, each classroom will have 2 modern computers	Technology Inventory (Technology staff)
	By June 2006, each classroom will have 3 modern computers	Technology Inventory (Technology staff)
2. Teachers and students will have access to equipment for presentations	By June 2004, each grade level at each elementary school will have at least one 25" TV with scan converter to display computer screen OR one LCD projector	Technology Inventory (Technology staff)
	By June 2004, each academic team at Elbert County Middle School will have at least one 25" TV with scan converter to display computer screen OR one LCD projector	Technology Inventory (Technology staff)
	By June 2004, each academic department at Elbert County High School will have at least two 25" TV's with scan converter to display computer screen AND/OR two LCD projectors	Technology Inventory (Technology staff)
	By June 2004, the Technical Career Department at ECHS will have at least four 25" TV's with scan converters to display computer screen AND/OR four LCD	Technology Inventory (Technology staff)

	projectors	
3. *Students will have access to computer equipment after regular school hours*	*By January 2003, a computer lab is open and staffed by a trained person from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at least one day per week in each school.*	*Administrative assurance* (Principals & Superintendent)

Instructional Uses of Technology -- Goals/Benchmarks/Evaluation:

VISION: The use of technology will be integrated into the instructional program and will enable teachers and students to improve academic achievement at all levels and in all content areas.

GOAL	BENCHMARK	EVALUATION & (RESPONSIBILITY)
1. Appropriate instructional software, aligned to Ga. QCC, is used across the system	Teachers include specific technology applications referenced to QCC objectives in their lesson plans at least once per week by June 2003.	Administrators' review of lesson plans and observations in classrooms. (Principals & Department heads)
2. Students use appropriate keyboarding skills when using computers	Task force will research keyboarding instruction for elementary school students and present recommendations by June, 2003. Implementation to follow as recommended by Task force.	Task force report (Vocational Director)
3. Students incorporate technology, especially use of internet resources, into reference and research	By the 2003-2004 school year, all students in grades 4-12 will be required to complete research using technology and present findings at least twice per school year (research paper, science fair, etc.)	Administrator observation of student work (Principals)

Administrative Uses of Technology -- Goals/Benchmarks/Evaluation :

VISION: All ... administrators, support personnel..... will use up-to-date technological hardware and software to support and enhance all phases of ..... system administration.

GOAL	BENCHMARK	EVALUATION & (RESPONSIBILITY)
1. Implement new Student Information System to replace OSIRIS for attendance, grades, FTE, transcripts, discipline, etc.	By November 2002, task force will select and recommend for purchase a new SIS software package	Recommendation made to BOE (FTE Coordinator)
	By June 2003, new SIS software package will be installed, key personnel will be trained, and the SIS package will be in use in all schools.	SIS will generate State-required reports (FTE Coordinator)
2. Implement new Accounting software package to replace GENESIS	By June 2003, task force will select and recommend for purchase a new Accounting software package.	Recommendation made to BOE (Finance Director)
	By June 2004, new Accounting software package will be installed, key personnel will be trained, and the Accounting software will be in use in the system.	Accounting software will generate FY05 budget and other reports (Finance Director)

Parent/Community Uses of Technology -- Goals/Benchmarks/Evaluation :

VISION: Parents will be involved in the education of their children. The community will be informed about the educational opportunities and challenges locally, and will provide necessary resources for meeting the needs of students.

GOAL	BENCHMARK	EVALUATION & (RESPONSIBILITY)
1. Determine what barriers exist for parents becoming involved in the education of their children	Devise and conduct parent survey, including parental needs for technological services by May 2003	Survey conducted and analyzed. Recommendations made as a result of survey (School Councils)

2. Determine community perceptions and needs of employers related to technology	Devise and conduct survey of business and industry leaders via Chamber of Commerce by September, 2003	Survey conducted and analyzed. (School Councils)

System Readiness for Technology -- Goals/Benchmarks/Evaluation:

VISION: *The use of technology will be integrated into the instructional program and will enable teachers and students to improve academic achievement at all levels and in all content areas.*

GOAL	BENCHMARK	EVALUATION & (RESPONSIBILITY)
1. All teachers and staff will be competent in the use of technology.	By July 2003, 35% of all professional staff will complete In-Tech or Special Georgia Technology Certification requirements, including demonstrating competency	Staff Development and Certification records (Staff Development Coordinator & Personnel Director)
	By July 2004, 60% of all professional staff will complete In-Tech or Special Georgia Technology Certification requirements, including demonstrating competency	Staff Development and Certification records (Staff Development Coordinator & Personnel Director)
	By July 2005, 85% of all professional staff will complete In-Tech or Special Georgia Technology Certification requirements, including demonstrating competency	Staff Development and Certification records (Staff Development Coordinator & Personnel Director)

System Support for Technology -- Goals/Benchmarks/Evaluation :

VISION: All teachers, administrators, support personnel, and students will use up-to-date technological hardware and software to support and enhance all phases of the instructional program and system administration.

GOAL	BENCHMARK	EVALUATION & (RESPONSIBILITY)
1. Technology support staff will be adequate to maintain networks and machines	By August 2003, employ total of 4 Technology Specialists	Personnel Records (Superintendent)
	By August 2004, employ total of 5 Technology Specialists	Personnel records (Superintendent)
2. Technology support staff dedicated to technology training will be employed	By July 2003, one full-time Technology trainer will be employed	Personnel records (Superintendent)

Action Plan –

Strategies Aligned to Goals; Timeline; Responsibility; Budget

Professional Development – Strategies/Timeline/Responsibility/Budget

GOAL 1:   ALL TEACHERS AND STAFF WILL BE COMPETENT IN THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY.

BENCHMARKS:

- *By July 2003, 35% of all professional staff will complete In-Tech or Special Georgia Technology Certification requirements, including demonstrating competency.*
- *By July 2004, 60% of all professional staff will complete In-Tech or Special Georgia Technology Certification requirements, including demonstrating competency.*
- *By July 2005, 85% of all professional staff will complete In-Tech or Special Georgia Technology Certification requirements, including demonstrating competency.*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget
1. 20 professional staff will take the Special Georgia Technology Certification course offered in Elbert County	July, 2002	Staff Development Coordinator	$2000 State Staff Development funds
2. 20 professional staff will take the Special Georgia Technology Certification course offered in Elbert County	May/June, 2003	Staff Development Coordinator	$2000 State Staff Development funds
3. 20 professional staff will take the Special Georgia Technology Certification course offered in Elbert County	July, 2003	Staff Development Coordinator	$2000 State Staff Development funds
4. 20 professional staff will take the Special Georgia Technology Certification course offered in Elbert County	May/June, 2004	Staff Development Coordinator	$2000 State Staff Development funds
5. 20 professional staff will take the Special Georgia Technology Certification course offered in Elbert County	July, 2004	Staff Development Coordinator	$2000 State Staff Development funds
6. 20 professional staff will take the Special Georgia Technology Certification course offered in Elbert County	May/June, 2005	Staff Development Coordinator	$2000 State Staff Development funds

7. 30 professional staff will *demonstrate technology* competency in the Special Georgia Technology Certification Review and Test-Out Option	January – May, 2003	Staff Development Coordinator	$2000 State Staff Development funds
8. 30 professional staff will demonstrate technology competency in the Special Georgia Technology Certification Review and Test-Out Option	January – May, 2004	Staff Development Coordinator	$2000 State Staff Development funds
9. 30 professional staff will demonstrate technology competency in the Special Georgia Technology Certification Review and Test-Out Option	January – May, 2005	Staff Development Coordinator	$2000 State Staff Development funds
10. 5 professional staff will take the Special Georgia Technology Certification course offered at Northeast Ga. RESA	2002-2003 school year	Staff Development Coordinator	$750 State Staff Development funds
11. 5 professional staff will take the Special Georgia Technology Certification course offered at Northeast Ga. RESA	2003-2004 school year	Staff Development Coordinator	$750 State Staff Development funds
12. 5 professional staff will take the Special Georgia Technology Certification course offered at Northeast Ga. RESA	2004-2005 school year	Staff Development Coordinator	$750 State Staff Development funds
13. 50 professional staff will participate in follow-up and extension activities focusing on integration of technology for teaching QCC objectives	2002-2003 school year	Technology Specialists	None needed; provided during teacher plan periods and teacher work days
14. 50 professional staff will participate in follow-up and extension activities focusing on integration of technology for teaching QCC objectives	2003-2004 school year	Technology Specialists	None needed; provided during teacher plan periods and teacher work days
15. 50 professional staff will participate in follow-up and extension activities focusing on integration of technology for teaching QCC objectives	2004-2005 school year	Technology Specialists	None needed; provided during teacher plan periods and teacher work days

Access to Technology – Strategies/Timeline/Responsibility/Budget

GOAL 1:   PROVIDE 4 MODERN COMPUTERS PER CLASSROOM
BENCHMARKS:
- *By June 2004, each classroom will have 2 modern computers*
- *By June 2006, each classroom will have 3 modern computers*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Purchase approximately 100 modern computers for classrooms; install on school networks	FY03	Technology and Media Specialists	$120,000 Lottery funds; Federal Technology funds
2. Purchase approximately 100 modern computers for classrooms; install on school networks	FY04	Technology and Media Specialists	$120,000 Lottery funds; Federal Technology funds
3. Purchase approximately 100 modern computers for classrooms; install on school networks	FY05	Technology and Media Specialists	$120,000 Lottery funds; Federal Technology funds
4. Upgrade wiring infrastructure to accommodate 4 computers per classroom	FY03-FY04	Director of Facilities and Technology Specialists	Unknown cost; System M&O funds

GOAL 2:   TEACHERS & STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO EQUIPMENT
*   FOR PRESENTATIONS.*
BENCHMARKS:
- *By June 2004, each grade level at each elementary school will have at least one 25" TV with scan converter to display computer screen OR one LCD projector*
- *By June 2004, each academic team at Elbert County Middle School will have at least one 25" TV with scan converter to display computer screen OR one LCD projector*
- *By June 2004, each academic department at Elbert County High School will have at least two 25" TV's with scan converter to display computer screen AND/OR two LCD projectors*
- *By June 2004, the Technical Career Department at ECHS will have at least four 25" TV's with scan converters to display computer screen AND/OR four LCD projectors.*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Purchase 15 25" televisions and scan converters for elementary schools	FY03	Technology and Media Specialists	$6000 Lottery funds; Federal

			Technology funds
2. Purchase 15 25" televisions and scan converters for elementary schools	FY04	Technology and Media Specialists	$6000 Lottery funds; Federal Technology funds
3. Purchase 5 25" televisions and scan converters for middle school	FY03	Technology and Media Specialists	$2000 Lottery funds; Federal Technology funds
4. Purchase 4 25" televisions and scan converters for middle school	FY04	Technology and Media Specialists	$1600 Lottery funds; Federal Technology funds
5. Purchase 4 25" televisions and scan converters for high school	FY03	Technology and Media Specialists	$1600 Lottery funds; Federal Technology funds
6. Purchase 4 25" televisions and scan converters for high school	FY04	Technology and Media Specialists	$1600 Lottery funds; Federal Technology funds

*GOAL 3:   STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO COMPUTER EQUIIPMNET
              AFTER SCHOOL HOURS.*
BENCHMARKS:
- *By January 2003, a computer lab is open and staffed by a trained person from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at least one day per week in each school.*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Hire Media Specialist or Technology Lab director 2 hours per week at each school ($25 per hour; 20 weeks @ 2 hours per week; 7 schools)	January – May, 2003	Principals	$7000 QBE Instructional budget
2. 2. Hire Media Specialist or Technology Lab director 2 hours per week at each school ($25 per hour; 36 weeks @ 2 hours per week; 7 schools)	2003-2004 School Year	Principals	$12,600 QBE Instructional budget
3. Hire Media Specialist or	2004-2005	Principals	$12,600